

## CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

# Champion Life Membership Salesman Is From Champion

Wilbur Matlock, a sub-director from F.U.A. District 12 who lives at Champion, proved that it is possible to sell life memberships. He collected at least 25 of them during the recent membership drive, to win the President's Cup and a place on the up coming F.U.A. Membership Tour.

Runner up to Mr. Matlock in the life membership sale was Mike Warawa of Vermilion, sub-director in District 7. He was awarded a silver tray.



**LIFE MEMBERSHIP WINNER**—Wilbur Matlock of Champion, Alberta is presented Wednesday evening at the convention with his award for selling the highest number of life memberships this year. (Left to right): Membership Committee Chairman Cornie Versluys looks on as Mr. Matlock accepts the President's Cup from Life Membership number 101, Hon. H. E. Strom, Minister of Agriculture, who farms near Medicine Hat. Beaming in the background is the re-elected president of the F.U.A., Paul Babey.

## CROP INSURANCE IN ALBERTA

THIS SPEECH WAS DELIVERED TO THE  
F.U.A. CONVENTION

by J. M. McKay

The Alberta Legislature last spring passed the Alberta Crop Insurance Act. This Act made provision for a crop insurance program in Alberta. Steps were taken by the Minister of Agriculture to establish the Alberta Crop Insurance Corporation and a board of directors was appointed.

This board has a good representation of practical farming, business experience and technical agriculture. In case you are not familiar with the board, its members are:

Mr. Ed Nelson, a farmer from the Wetaskiwin district and the former president of the Farmers' Union of Alberta;

Mr. George Cramton, farmer from Daysland, and secretary of the Association of Municipal Seed Cleaning Plants;

Mr. J. Glen Elder, manager and director of the Alberta Hail Insurance Board; and

Mr. A. M. Wilson, the Field Crops Commissioner for Alberta.

I (J. M. McKay\*) have been named chairman of the board. I am a farmer from the Brant district and have come to know many of you through work with the Municipal Association of which I also happen to be the president (Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties.—Ed.)

\*Mr. McKay is also director of the Alberta Hail Insurance Board.

Office space for the Crop Insurance Corporation has been acquired in Calgary, and Mr Ed Patching, formerly of the Alberta Wheat Pool, has been appointed general manager.

### START IN 1965

It is our intention to offer crop insurance in two or perhaps three selected areas this coming spring. One of these will likely be in the open prairie area of southern Alberta, another in the parkland area of central or northern Alberta, and if time permits and there is sufficient interest, a third may be set up in the Peace River area. We will begin on a fairly modest scale, partly because of time limitations and the inability to do all the work necessary to offer insurance over a wide area, and partly because all-risk crop insurance is a relatively new idea and there is much to be learned from actual experience. It is a case of crawling before you walk, and walking before you run.

### BACKGROUND TO CROP INSURANCE

The idea of a crop insurance program to take some of the risk out of farming dates back many years but was a particularly live issue in the late thirties. After a number of consecutive years of crop failure or near failure—coupled with ruinously low prices—prairie agriculture was in a precarious position. It was evident

that measures were needed to provide some protection against recurrence of similar conditions. Crop insurance was talked about but after the depression the idea of selling it to farmers, who would have to pay premiums, was out of the question. Instead, the federal government passed the Prairie Farm Assistance Act in 1939.

This was intended to be a relief, rather than an insurance, agency. P.F.A.A. has been in operation since and while it has served many areas well, it has not been of much help to farmers outside the drier areas and so there was more agitation for some form of crop insurance.

(Continued on page 2)

## Drive Safely

Now, as you read this, make up your mind to live.

Don't wait until the subject comes up, probably in fast-moving traffic. Deal with it now, while you have a while to figure out the system. Think over your driving (or walking) habits and make up your mind not only to correct them but to make a habit of the safe way of doing things.

Practice the right moves in an emergency. Driving, be sure your car isn't in a spot that will get it crushed or forced off the road.

Compel yourself to signal, drive in the right lane, turn properly and do all the right things, over and over.

Actually, driving is a lot more pleasant that way. Pedestrians can do some rehearsing, too, to make safety a habit.

Several more life memberships were sold during the convention, bringing the total sold past the 100 mark. The 101st life membership was sold to Alberta Agricultural Minister Harry E. Strom. Other life members include George Sayle, president of U.F.A. Co-op, and Lester Snyder of Calgary who is a director of the United Grain Growers, and who brought fraternal greetings from the U.G.G.

Total registration for the FUA convention this year reached 444 including the nine delegates from Co-ops who were seated for the first time this year.

Co-ops with delegates in attendance were the Alberta Poultry Producers, United Grain Growers, C.C.I.L., Alberta Wheat Pool, Northern Alberta Dairy Pool, Central Alberta Dairy Pool, U.F.A. Co-op, Alberta Livestock Co-op, and Co-op Insurance Services.

Mrs. Zella Norem of Edmonton was the winner of the brand new Chevrolet which was raffled by the

Jr. F.U.A. Proceeds from the raffle will go to help pay off loans against the Goldeye Leadership Training Centre facilities.

Other raffle winners were: Parry Ramey of Paxton—stereo record player; Geo. F. Williams of Edmonton—garden tractor; Rose Bollinger of Jenner—washing machine; T. O'Rourke of Clandonald—transistor radio.

Elections returned Paul Babey and Mrs. Russell Johnston for second terms as F.U.A. and F.W.U.A. presidents. Anders Anderson of Medicine Hat was also returned as F.U.A. vice-president. Mrs. Cecil James of Manola was elected F.W.U.A. first vice-president, succeeding Mrs. Hallum who declined to run again. Mrs. Ben Jasman of Three Hills was elected F.W.U.A. second vice-president.

The new F.U.A. Executive consists of Dick Page from Didsbury, Ken McIntosh of Grande Prairie, and Jerald Hutchinson of Warner who continues from last year.

In this issue of The Organized Farmer, readers will find much of the space devoted to convention coverage. Included is a report from the Crop Insurance Corporation, and a list of all resolutions as passed. In the next issue, we will try to complete our convention coverage. In case anyone is looking for the rest of China Diary, this series will continue in the January issues.

## EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT APPOINTED

A new, cheerful, and very welcome face has been added to the F.U.A. staff. Mr. Doug Galbraith, who operates a grain and beef farm in the Vulcan district, has taken the responsibility of Executive Assistant, a post which has been created to fill a gap in F.U.A. operations.

Mr. Galbraith will work primarily to obtain necessary information needed by the F.U.A. Executive so that better decisions can be made on issues the farm organization is called upon to handle. He will take part in the writing of briefs and submissions, and he will play a major role in the future work of the central office.



Doug Galbraith

Mr. Galbraith commented on how he views his new duties.

"Our duties in the F.U.A. are increasing. The amount of pressure required from the people in agriculture, if these people are to compete in this organized society, is increasing."

He said his reason for accept-

ing the new position was that he desired a chance to serve agriculture, and he felt that this job would be a way of doing so.

Doug Galbraith is presently moving his family, wife Violet and a boy and two girls, into a home in Edmonton. He has been active in the F.U.A. organization since its inception. He has served as alternate director of District 12 for the past 8 years. He is a past director of the Vulcan Seed Cleaning Co-operative, past president of the Vulcan Telephone Mutual, past president of the Vulcan Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Galbraith was a member of the Jr. U.F.A. 30 years ago, he says.

He has had considerable experience in the business world as well. Starting with a degree in Commerce from the U. of A., Mr. Galbraith has been an office manager, and he has had considerable experience collecting statistical information.

F.U.A. president Paul Babey, in announcing the appointment, emphasized that the F.U.A. has not compiled proper statistics on problems facing farmers, and that this lack is now proving a handicap in the organization's efforts to develop, promote, and implement policy for agriculture.

He said that a good example of the kind of work the organization could expect from the new executive assistant was the "home work" which was done on resolutions before they were presented at the recent convention.

"The fact that we had prepared documents on many of the resolutions made it possible for the delegates to use the factual information in their debates. This meant that decisions were bound to be better, based soundly on fact. It also meant that the work of the convention was speeded up, so that we could complete our work at this convention."

Mr. Galbraith says he intends to continue to operate his farm, by "remote control". He is going to be a very busy man in the months to come.

# CROP INSURANCE . . .

(Continued from page 1)

ance. Studies were made in each of the prairie provinces but each recognized that desirable as insurance might be it was too big a project for the provinces to undertake on their own.

With the passing of time it became increasingly apparent that P.F.A.A., while benefitting many farmers, was not serving the needs of large sections of prairie agriculture. There was also a growing recognition that something had to be done to provide added stability to agriculture. The federal government, anxious to get away from ad hoc relief measures and straight handout programs such as acreage payments, passed Crop Insurance Legislation in 1959.

## OBJECTIVES

I would like to make it clear at the outset that the major objective of government-sponsored crop insurance is to make available to farmers a plan whereby a major part of the cash investment in a crop can be protected at minimum cost. The insurance is a protection against major losses, not against the minor variations in yield that frequently occur. Moreover, it is not a relief program. Instead, it is a means whereby farmers, with some assistance from the government, can provide their own protection against disaster. It is a self-help measure.

## FEDERAL LEGISLATION

As I mentioned, federal legislation was passed in 1959 making it possible for provincial governments—with some federal assistance—to establish crop insurance programs provided they meet these requirements:

- 1) The insurance plan must be actuarially sound.
- 2) A minimum of 25 per cent of the farmers in any insurance area must participate.
- 3) The coverage or protection shall not exceed 60 per cent of the long-time average.

The federal government will then contribute:

- 1) 50 per cent of administrative costs.
- 2) 20 per cent of the cost of premiums.
- 3) Provide loans to the province in the event of indemnities exceeding premiums and reserves.

The provinces participating are required to:

- 1) Set up a program under terms of the Federal Act.
- 2) Provide for the administration.
- 3) Build up a reserve fund for the payment of indemnities.
- 4) Assume the RISK of writing insurance. This was changed this fall by an amendment to the Federal Act which makes provision for the provinces to reinsure their RISK with the federal government.

## MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN PROGRAMS

Manitoba passed complementary legislation in 1959 and started a crop insurance program the following year. In 1961, Saskatchewan followed suit and initiated a crop insurance program and in 1963, Prince Edward Island started

ed a small crop insurance program.

This year, the Alberta government passed the necessary legislation and we hope to establish a program commencing with the 1965 crop.

As I mentioned, Manitoba commenced operations five years ago when they established four test areas. The first year, nearly 2,500 farmers participated in the plan—this representing about 38 per cent of the eligible farmers. The total coverage was in the neighborhood of \$4 million. By 1964, the insurance had been extended to cover about a third of the farming area of the province, over 6,400 farmers had contracts representing about 60 per cent of eligible farmers, and the total risk is in the neighborhood of \$15 million.

The program has moved ahead steadily and has been readily accepted by farmers. Next year, with the provincial government able to reinsure its risk under the recent amendment to the Federal Act, insurance will likely be offered in about two-thirds of the province and in 1966 it will be offered over the entire province.

In Saskatchewan, crop insurance has been expanded less rapidly for a number of reasons. This year there are about 2,400 contract holders and the risk is in the neighborhood of \$4 million—not far short of the ceiling set by the government before reinsurance was made available.

## HIGH RISK IN FARMING

No one need tell farmers about the risks involved in farming and today's high cost of operation—both factors behind the request for crop insurance. Suffice it to say that when you plant your crop in the spring you have no assurance of what sized crop you will harvest or whether you will recover your cost of operation.

Crop insurance is really intended to provide this assurance. Last year in the Vulcan-Strathmore area a farm management survey showed the average operating costs for 29 grain farmers to be in the neighborhood of \$14,000. With expenses such as these the loss of one crop could create difficulties, and two poor crops would likely cause real trouble for most farmers.

## ALBERTA INSURANCE PROGRAM

As far as the Alberta program is concerned there are many decisions yet to be made but I think it is quite safe to say that it will operate roughly along these lines:

1. **Type of Insurance**  
Insurance will be provided against all natural hazards, including drouth, flooding, frost, hail, wind, disease and pests, including wildlife.
2. **Who Will Participate**  
The program is entirely voluntary and only those farmers who wish need join. However, when an insurance area has been established at least 25 per cent of the farmers within this area must take insurance if it is to become effective.

3. **Project Areas**  
At the moment we are hopeful of establishing two, and possibly three, project areas in the spring of 1965, each of which will involve a block of from 20 to 30 townships. It is likely these areas where ships. It is likely these areas will be located some distance apart. It is also our hope to select areas where soil and crop conditions are fairly uniform.

4. **Level of Insurance**  
The level of coverage or the protection provided is limited under the legislation to 60 per cent of the long-time average. If the long-time average yield for wheat in your area is 20 bushels per acre, you would be covered to the extent of 12 bushels and you would collect when the average for your farm drops below this level. The amount you would receive would depend on the amount your average is below the 12 bushels. If, for example, your average is 8 bushels, you would receive payment for the difference between 8 and 12 bushels.

This figure of 60 per cent coverage may seem low to you but it is a figure intended to approximate your out-of-pocket expenses in growing the crop.

It has been calculated that when even an average crop is grown in a district, about 18 per cent of the farmers would have yields dropping below the 60 per cent level.

## 5. Premiums and Indemnities

The amount farmers will pay and the coverage they will receive will be calculated for the smallest practical unit. In Manitoba rates and coverage have been calculated for each quarter section. In Saskatchewan, coverage is the same over the entire area tributary to a delivery point but the premium is calculated on a township basis. We hope to calculate our indemnities and premiums at a level somewhere between these two extremes.

## 6. Premium Adjustment

With the information that is available establishing premiums at exactly the proper level presents a serious problem. For this reason rates will likely be adjusted from time to time as additional information becomes available and as a result of experience. There will also be an adjustment for good performance. That is, a farmer who does not collect or collects only occasionally will be entitled to discounts. In Manitoba, this ranges up to 40 per cent after 10 years and in Saskatchewan, up to 15 per cent in seven years. In Saskatchewan, farmers can build up an additional discount of 15 per cent for continuous participation.

## 7. Progressive Coverage

Coverage increases as the season progresses. For example, a crop lost soon after seeding is not worth as much as one lost later in the season when land cannot be put to alternate uses. We will likely follow the policy of Manitoba and Saskatchewan which have a 50 per cent adjustment after seeding, 90 per cent immediately prior to harvest and 100 per cent coverage after harvest.

## 8. Insurance Unit

If an individual wishes to insure a crop he must insure all his acreage sown to that particular crop. You must insure your major crop. The insurance of your other crops is optional. You cannot, however, pick out all your poorest land and insure that.

Initially, we will insure wheat, oats and barley but will likely include other crops as additional statistical information becomes available.

## 9. Value Placed on Crops

Before insurance is sold a value is placed on each grain so that an individual knows in advance what

coverage, in dollars, he actually has. We have tentatively placed the value of wheat at \$1.25, basis 3 Northern; oats at 45 cents and barley at 70 cents, both basis Feed.

## 10. Quality Insurance

Quality insurance will likely be offered. Under this system, in effect in both Manitoba and the United States, if the harvested crop is not equal in value to the insurance level established, then this is taken into consideration when an adjustment is made.

For example, if the price of wheat is set at \$1.30 per bushel but the wheat produced was badly frozen and was actually worth only 90 cents, then it would require more bushels of production to equal the insured value.

## 11. Selling and Administration

District agents will be appointed who will be the main contact with farmers. Experience has shown that policies must be actively sold and promoted. All selling will take place prior to seeding.

## 12. Loss Adjustment

The adjustment is similar to that under the P.F.A.A. However, it may take place at any time during the growing season. When adjustment is made, part-time adjusters must determine whether loss is due to negligence or mismanagement. If it is due to the latter, a farmer who has a bad record may ultimately be barred from the crop insurance program.

## COST OF INSURANCE

One of the first questions you will no doubt ask is how much will the insurance cost? As yet, we have not had an opportunity

to make any accurate calculations for Alberta, but in Saskatchewan rates to the farmer have averaged 7.6 per cent of coverage but range from around 5 per cent to more than 12 per cent.

In Manitoba, the average cost to the farmer is about 7 per cent of the coverage but this varies from a low of around 4 per cent to a high of 20 per cent.

On this basis premiums in Saskatchewan run from about 65c an acre for wheat for \$13.00 coverage to as much as \$1.05 an acre for \$10.00 coverage.

In Manitoba, premiums varied much more and their rate structure is very complex.

## FACTORS OFFSETTING COST

In thinking of rates, it should be borne in mind that 20 per cent of the calculated premium is paid by the federal government; that insurance premiums are a deductible expense as far as income tax is concerned; and thirdly, those who sign for crop insurance are not subject to P.F.A.A. levies. In actual fact, the out-of-pocket cost to the individual farmer may be in the neighborhood of only half of the calculated premium. Moreover, should he qualify for a reduced rate because of good performance, this cost would be reduced still further.

The federal government pays 20 per cent of the premiums and all administration and operating costs are shared by the two senior governments. This means that over the long period the average insured farmer will receive more in benefits than he pays in premiums. In this respect it is different than almost any other type of insurance where not only must provision be made for all expenses but for a profit as well.

## FARM ORGANIZATIONS CAN HELP

Experience in other provinces has shown that farmers want and need crop insurance. It has also shown that farmers will not rush into the agency office and buy insurance. It is a program which must be taken right to the individual farmer and can be sold only when the insurance program is fully understood and the benefits carefully explained. As a result, we have a big information job ahead of us. This means we shall be looking to farm organizations for help. With this assistance, which I feel sure will be forthcoming, I am confident that crop insurance will, in the years ahead, become an integral and an essential part of Alberta's agriculture.

# The C.C.I.L. MANAGERS and STAFF

at

|               |                |            |
|---------------|----------------|------------|
| BERWYN        | GRANDE PRAIRIE | ST. PAUL   |
| CALGARY       | HANNA          | VEGREVILLE |
| DAWSON CREEK  | INNISFAIL      | WAINWRIGHT |
| FAIRVIEW      | LETHBRIDGE     | WESTLOCK   |
| FALHER        | SEDGEWICK      | WETASKIWIN |
| FORT ST. JOHN | STETTLE        |            |

ALL WISH YOU AND YOURS  
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND ALL THE BEST  
IN 1965!

## FARMERS' UNION OF ALBERTA

9934 - 106 St., Edmonton, Alta.  
Phone 424-0375  
After 5:00 p.m. 489-6955

## the organized farmer

EDITOR — PAUL BABEY  
Assistant Editor — Ken Nelson  
Subscriptions — \$1.00 a year  
Authorized Second Class Mail,  
Post Office Department, Ottawa,  
and for payment of postage in cash  
FARMERS' UNION OF ALBERTA  
9934 - 106 St., F.U.A. Bldg.,  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

# REVOLUTIONARY TIMES CHALLENGE TO US ALL

THE FOLLOWING IS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF  
AN ADDRESS BY REV. HART CANTELON  
TO THE F.U.A. CONVENTION

My father was a missionary in the West and served particularly to the Indian people but also the newcomers from Europe as they tried to adjust to Canadian life, in the community in which we lived. I could share many things about this rural background which I cherish, but I want to challenge you this afternoon with something that is on my heart.

The story is told of a Scot who every Saturday took vegetables in his cart to Glasgow, and on this particular Saturday, he and his wife returned with as many vegetables as they had gone with, and he was in a pensive mood. Maggie decided that she would try to share the pensiveness that Jock experienced and so she turned to him and she said, "Jock, wouldn't it be wonderful if you and I could always pull together like the team of mules up ahead?" Jock paused for a moment and without turning his head one way or another, he said, "Aye, we could, Maggie, if there were but one tongue between us."

You know life would be very simple if there were but one voice challenging the world today, and challenging particularly farmers, but there are many voices, and I think that most of us, particularly as people who are in the quietness of rural life, and some of you who may think it is not so quiet, fail with most of us to realize the kind of revolution that is abroad in the world today. I feel that most of us are very much like Rip Van Winkle, the story which some of you may have read in your old literature book in Grade 8—of a man who went to sleep when George III was the head of the United States, and when he woke up George Washington was the head, and he hadn't realized that anything had happened.

## FREEDOM FOR WHAT?

What is the nature of the revolution that is facing us? Well, in the first place it is a population revolution. Doctor Clark at the University of Oregon was fiddling around with his computer last summer, he fed into it the present population trends of the world, and do you know what the computer came out with — that in 2043 there would be a person on every square foot of the earth's surface.

There is not only a population revolution, but there is a political revolution going on. There is a movement in the world that is a man made freedom. I was at an Indian convention in Lethbridge, and this was a cry of the Indian people: "We want to be free."

Some of them stood up and said "Free for what?"—surely liberty and loyalty are born twins, you must be tied to something. They answered, "We want to be free to make our own mistakes."

The colored peoples of the world are not waiting. We have told them as a white group that we want them to wait until they are ready for the revolution, and they are saying to us, we will have the revolution even though it means our destruction.

## CHANGE FOR WHAT?

When you realize that two-thirds of the world's population are made up of colored people, I challenge you that unless we listen to the responsibilities that are ours, the day will come when the greatest disadvantage in the world will be to wear a white face.

There is not only a population revolution and a political revolution, there is also a social revolution abroad. You and I have sensed this surely, in the fact that our own young people don't want to live in the close confines of rural life. You and I know that they can hop into an automobile and in 15 minutes they can be out of the community that knows them

and away from the responsibilities of home, and they are free to do what they want, to see what they would see, to read what they would read.

I was on the highway between Lethbridge and Medicine Hat only last week, I picked up a couple of youngsters, asked them where they were going, they were from Lethbridge—I asked them where they were heading—Medicine Hat. What for—a dance. They thought nothing of the movement of 90 miles from one centre to another in order to attend a teen club and a dance. Suddenly, there is a freedom available to the young people—a freedom without the old moral ties that kept you and me on the straight and good path.

The result is that Dr. Wilson in his recent report to the University of Washington, tells us that in Canada, in his study last summer, the increase of pregnancy among teen age girls out of wedlock has increased 6¼ times since 1947. I could go on and on as a pastor of a church pointing out to you the social revolution that is ours. It is going on right within our own homes.

## MUST WE FEAR REVOLUTION?

Unbelievable forces are driving men and women into new and unknown ways. There is not only population and political revolution and social revolution, there is a technological revolution. I talked to a farmer recently, who was complaining that his \$9,000 tractor he had purchased a year ago was already obsolete. Do we realize why this has happened? It is because the time gap between discovery and application has now downed progress in two years—think of it! The time gap between the discovery of the telegraph and its application was 112 years. The time gap between telephone, its discovery and application was 52 years. The time gap between the radio, its discovery and application was 35 years. The time gap between radar, its discovery and application was 12 years. The time gap between nuclear energy and its application is six years. The time gap between the discovery of the transistor and its application is five years.

This is the kind of technological revolution that we are facing, and one of the big problems of the western world is this, in the words of Charles Mack, "We are afraid to be revolutionary." I want to challenge you as members of the convention, that you are going to bend the world to a freedom that is controlled and has a foundation for our children and our children's children.

You will have to be more revolutionary in a positive way than

all of the revolutionary movements that I have mentioned. What do I mean by this? I mean that there are three questions we must face as people. The first question that we must ask ourselves and find a revolutionary answer for is what am I as a human being.

## FEAR HUNGRY MEN?

This is one of the reasons for the world wide revolution today, because two-thirds of the world's people believe there is no real understanding of what a human being is, that you might as well eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow you die, and by dying they mean that you are gone and nothing really matters. This is filtering down through the rest of the Western world today—when I talk to young people at junior college, so many of them say to me, what really is the purpose of my struggling for an education? Where are we really going?

But if you believe that a human being is something that is on a level of life that is far greater than any level of life, if you can believe as a follower of God that a human being is a child of God—then there are drastic implications for you as farmers, it means that suddenly you are thrust into the greatest purpose in the world today, which is to feed empty stomachs. There ought to be in your hearts, and of those who produce foods, a deeper fear of the hungry man than of the nuclear bomb, because there is no danger in a nuclear bomb going off in a stockpile, but a hungry man can set it off. There ought to be little sleep and little rest for conscience until we sense a revolutionary movement that will feed the world.

I have talked to farmers about this and I have heard them saying "how can we do it?" — I am telling you that if we can put an automatic machine into flight that can be guided to the moon a hundred and fifty thousand miles from here, we can also solve the problem of feeding a hungry world. But it takes revolutionary thinking to do it and it takes men and women with great conviction to do it.

## DO WE PAY OUR COST?

Make no mistake, the movements of the world are challenging. I never will forget Stan Peck. When he came over as an exchange student here at the University of Alberta from Czechoslovakia, he was once asked at an open forum if he ever voted for Communism. There was a hush in the audience because everyone suspected him to be a communist, and he stood up and said, "yes, I voted for communism the last time that I exercised my franchise in Czechoslovakia. I entered a great hall, and there at the back of the hall were huge tables with hampers of food and up at the head of the hall was the picture of the only candidate — the communist candidate — I was told that if I voted for him I could take home a hamper of food; the last cry I heard when I left my home that morning to exercise my vote was the cry of my six year old sister because she had not eaten solid food for ten days." And then he turned to us and he asked, "Who would you have voted for?"

The answer to the question, What am I as an individual? Secondly the question, What do I cost? There is a great tradition of knowledge, of development of technique, of insight of the burdens of homesteaders, that have put you men and women here at this convention today. I knew of these burdens as a boy, and we can talk about our problems and we have never had them like that. We never had our wives bearing their children on the beds of our

own house, or bearing the problems of lack of schools and lack of health and lack of doctors, and lack of hospitals, — and you and I stand here today because of a great tradition of others who have paid a cost for what we have — and when our cost has been paid for us, there is laid upon our shoulders a deep responsibility that we might return, in dedication and insight and in thanks for what we have received.

## WHAT IS THE ESSENTIAL PURPOSE?

And the deep thinking that needs to go on in this whole are of our responsibilities for tomorrow's world, and the burden that ought to be in our hearts, but more than they, the third question that we have to ask ourselves is, where are we going. What is the real purpose of the Farmers' Union of Alberta? Like any other union or organization, including the church, is it just the purpose to perpetuate the institution? What great vision have we got ahead of us? We may have disagreed with John Fitzgerald Kennedy's politics but this didn't really matter.

Here was a man who challenged people to a new world frontier, and this was the reason the Polish Teenagers climbed onto his car as he drove through Europe. The Mexicans cried with joy upon their hearts as they listened to him speak. The people of East and West Berlin longed to see the face of one whose vision was to lead, who talked about a new frontier, and I am convinced that this is the only thing that will challenge the coming generation of our young people.

We have complained that they are not going on farms. I believe the answer is not economics because this can be solved, although there are problems here and we all know them, but I think the problem is that we have to set before them vision of what farming really is, that it's not just making a day living and being able to buy a new car and a new combine and purchase another tractor. It is to be part and plan of the purpose of the world, to lead to a new day that men of the soil can be closer to their maker than any other group of people, and therefore closer to the essential purposes that God would have us face.

## IS THERE ANYTHING LEFT TO DIE FOR?

I will never forget Eric, a young student at Alberta College who registered at the College three years ago this past fall. He was like so many youngsters failing his grades, more money in his pocket than he ought to have, anxiety of his parents because he wasn't measuring up to his capacity, and I remember his father writing him a letter saying, if you will just pass with a bare 50 at Easter time I will buy you a new car, and I was flabbergasted as the administrator of the college, to find Eric with a bare 50.2% driving a new 1961 Pontiac convertible into the campus, and he thought I was a real ogre as I demanded to have the keys from Monday until Friday night, but of course the story was that Eric failed, and that summer he and I had long talks about the purpose of life, and finally he picked out a university. He chose a college in the United States out of a magazine ad and he decided to go to this college. When he entered the dormitory the first day in the following September, to his amazement his room-mate was a negro, the brother-in-law of Martin Luther King, John Lewis. Every

Wednesday John went out, never said where, and finally Eric's curiosity got the better of him and he asked John where he was going on a Wednesday night, and John said "Come and see."

They went to a little church with broken down steps where a group of young people were sitting and chatting of a summer evening. There was a portion of scripture read and the Lord's Prayer said, and then John turned to the group and he said to three girls, "Mary, Ethel and Jane, you will go to the restaurant over there where it says 'whites only served' and you will try to buy a cup of coffee. Bill, Henry and Alex, you will go down here to the bowling alley where it says 'white patrons only' and you will try to rent an alley and a pair of shoes and bowl." The groups were distributed and at last John and Eric were left. John said, "Eric, come with me" and they went to a posh restaurant where there were glass doors and a red flashing sign of discrimination. As they moved toward the doors, eight burly young punks, elbow to elbow, stood in the doorway. Eric stepped up to John and tapped him on the shoulder and said, "You will not go in there because they will kill you, John." And John turned to Eric and said, "Eric isn't there anything right for which you are willing to die?" And this one question—what is the deep purpose of your life, changed Eric. Today he is in McGill University in a pre-medical course. Do you know what he wants to do? He wants to be a doctor for some organization in the United Nations that will have a vision of the frontier of a new world.

## TALK OF A NEW WORLD

Yes, we are living in revolutionary days, but the part that the farmer can play in this day and age is second in my mind only to the spiritual leader of the world, whether he be in politics or in the church. Because there is no use of us talking to people about a new world unless they can have the proof that will make that new world possible, have the facilities that will make that new day a hope and be able to see, step by step at least within the next 100 years whereby there can be a new world.

Remember this, life is not lost by dying, as Alton Trueblood has said, but is lost by day by day dragging, and all the thousands fall on carrying ways. We will never lose a new day by making wrong decisions—but lose it by making no decisions at all and pretending that there is no revolution abroad. I pray God will guide you, as you see the great part you will play in tomorrow's world.

## Aim at Safety

Which is safer? Blow the horn and hope to scatter the other traffic like frightened hens, or apply the brake and wait for an opening?

There are times when sounding a horn can be helpful, such as letting traffic ahead know you are there if you're in what might be a blind spot to the other drivers. Or if a bicycle is wriggling along ahead, or someone seems to be about to open his car's door on the traffic side. At times like that, a short blast on the horn may smooth the way safely.

But in an emergency — if the blind-spot driver suddenly moves into your path or the cyclist wriggles in front of your car, or the door actually opens no horn in this world will prevent an accident.

Brakes, properly and speedily applied, are much more sensible. Make braking a habit. On top of this, be always sure your car's brakes are in top condition.

Play it safe.

Much of the sunflower seed crop grown in Canada is for bird feed or confectionary use.

# Resolutions Passed at Annual Convention

## MUNICIPAL COLLECTION OF DUES

RESOLVED that the municipal collection of FUA dues be discontinued.

## RESEARCH PROGRAM

RESOLVED that the NFU develop a research program on national agricultural problems and that definite action be taken on the findings of these studies.

## PROVINCIAL LAND PURCHASE

RESOLVED that owners of land within the "Green Area" who occupy and derive their living from such land be allowed to purchase adjoining or closely adjacent land, where the following conditions prevail:

1. The present acreage owned by the operator is not great enough to create a thoroughly economic unit.

2. The purchase of sufficient additional acres may reasonably be expected to convert such unit into a substantial project which would benefit the operator and simultaneously be an asset to the community and the province.

## FARMERS' DAY

RESOLVED that we ask the government to declare Farmers' Day a provincial holiday.

## EARLIER GRAVELLING OF ROADS

RESOLVED that the Department of Highways be asked to do graveling of roads early in the season, where possible, so that the gravel may be well packed into road surface before winter and will not be thrown into the ditch by snow-plows during the winter.

## WELFARE LISTS

RESOLVED that in local improvement districts and local governments, each welfare office have a list of welfare recipients in their respective districts, and

FURTHER that this list be made available to advisory boards and councillors.

## FEDERAL PROFITEERING

RESOLVED that we petition the Federal Government to make sure that fines levied against illegal profiteering be ample to discourage future profiteering.

## GRAIN, SEEDS & SPECIAL CROPS POLICY

PRESENT POLICY—see 1964 Policy Handbook, page 8.

That the Provincial and Federal Governments establish a marketing board, with a pooling system similar to the Canadian Wheat Board, for the marketing of grass, clover and legume seeds.

## LIVESTOCK

PRESENT POLICY—see 1964 Policy Handbook, page 11.

1. That we continue our educational program in an attempt to bring the facts on a hog mar-

keting board to all hog producers so that they may be in a position to make an intelligent decision at the time of the plebiscite.

2. WHEREAS the Minister of Agriculture, the Farmers' Union of Alberta, and the Alberta Federation of Agriculture joint hog marketing committee recognize that we have a hog marketing problem, and

WHEREAS the minister wishes to revise the Alberta Marketing Act and

WHEREAS the committee has agreed to temporarily withdraw its request for a hog marketing plebiscite pending studies by the Alberta Marketing Committee, and Revisions of the Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this meeting: (1) restate its support for a hog marketing board as a medium for building a stable and competitive market; (2) endorse the action of the government and the committee with regard to the above decisions, and that both bodies work toward the early establishment of a satisfactory marketing act; (3) the committee, in its wisdom, take necessary steps to hold a plebiscite at the earliest practical time, keeping in mind the expressed demands of producers.

## Changes to policy suggested by resolutions

3. That farmers raising weaner and feeder hogs should be eligible to vote on the proposed hog marketing plebiscite.

4. That when ballots are mailed to registered hog producers for the hog marketing plebiscite that a copy of the proposed hog marketing scheme be enclosed with each ballot.

## FARM CREDIT POLICY

PRESENT POLICY—see 1964 Policy Handbook, page 8.

1. That the Federal Government establish a Farm Credit Bank through which they could consolidate all present farm credit legislation, excluding the V.L.A. Act.

2. That we are opposed to the Farm Credit Corporation increasing interest rates on loans to farmers, and

THAT we ask other farm organizations to protest such an increase.

## FARM ORGANIZATION

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 1964 Annual FUA Convention instruct our Board of Directors to enter into plans and negotiations aimed at achieving a more efficient and unified farm organization in the province.

(1) That this organization be based on existing farm union sub-districts (Counties or M.D.) and have on its board representatives elected at large from the memberships, and in addition, representatives elected by the member-

ship of farmer-owned co-operatives and commodity groups.

(2) That these same groups be appropriately represented on the provincial board of directors and at the annual meeting of the new organization.

(3) That the FUA members and officials at all levels, take the lead in promoting understanding between all farm organizations within their areas, with regard to the program as the first and essential step in the development of the proposed new farm organization.

## SWINE COUNCIL

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the proposed Alberta Swine Council constitution be circulated to the FUA locals for consideration and recommendations.

## SHELTERBELTS

RESOLVED that were natural and planted shelterbelts must be removed to facilitate road and highway widening and maintenance, thereby destroying farmstead shelter, wild life sanctuary, and rural beauty, as well as threatening arable land susceptible to wind erosion, we request our provincial and municipal governments to assist financially and (physically) in re-planting and cultivation of necessary shelterbelts.

## HUTTERITES

RESOLVED that the FUA in co-operation with the Hutterite Brethren initiate a study of at least three typical colonies to determine the accuracy of recent critical public statements with respect to Hutterite Colonies and on the basis of the study draft a report for consideration at the next annual convention.

## FARM UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we ask the Federal Government to implement acceptable Farm Labour Unemployment Insurance legislation designed to maintain a stable year round farm labour force, thereby relieving pressure on urban centres during periods of regular winter unemployment.

## STANDARD LEASE FORMS

RESOLVED that we ask the Alberta Government to draw up a standard form of contract to be used by oil companies for oil well site leases, and

FURTHER that any pipelines, flowlines, telephone and power lines which are built outside of the site must be dealt for separately.

## TOP SOIL STRIPPING

WHEREAS the Pipe Line Act does not require oil companies to strip the top soil and replace same:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED this act be amended to read that all pipe and flow lines must be stripped and the top soil be put back on top when finished.

## SOIL DAMAGE COMPENSATION

RESOLVED that oil companies must pay damage to farmers for crops grown on oil sites, pipe lines and all cut backs until such time the soil has been fully restored to full crop production.

## OIL SITE RECLAMATION

WHEREAS the squeeze method of reclaiming oil sites results in a very unsatisfactory job:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this method be disallowed.

## HUNTING LICENSES

RESOLVED that hunting licenses be made available from at least one outlet in each small town from a bonded person.

## TELEPHONES

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the FUA approach the Alberta Government about taking over the rural telephone system.

## V.L.A. LOANS

RESOLVED that we urge Veterans Land Act loans be increased to \$55,000 as is the case with the Farm Credit Corporation.

## TAX CONCESSION FOR TREES

RESOLVED that the Provincial and Municipal governments set up a policy whereby a tax concession will be allowed as compensation for up to 20 acres per quarter section of trees left or planted on farms to aid in conservation.

## RAIL LINE ABANDONMENT

RESOLVED that this convention urge that no rail line be abandoned except as a part of an overall transportation policy based upon the following points:

1. That the social and economic structure of the communities concerned shall not suffer unduly.

2. That the railways must prove to the satisfaction of the Railway Rationalization Authority that subject to point No. 1 above, the line is in fact being operated with the greatest possible efficiency.

## MARCH ON OTTAWA

RESOLVED that this convention give moral support for and an official representation on the March on Ottawa proposed by the Ontario Farmers' Union, providing the other two prairie provinces support this march.

## FEED GRAIN COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that we ask the N.F.U. to appoint a committee to co-operate with the organized farmers of Quebec to work on the problem of the cost of feed grain in Quebec.

## FARM MACHINERY GUARANTEE

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all dealers give a written guarantee on new or used machinery, stating condition of the

machine and thereby guaranteeing the condition of the machine.

## PROVINCIAL POWER

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we ask the Provincial Government to take immediate action to bring the power system of Alberta under provincial ownership and control, along the lines of Section 1 of the FUA Power Policy.

## ACCESS ROADS

RESOLVED that when government policy requires access roads to be built the government should pay all costs involved in the building of same.

## DELEGATION TO INDIA

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a volunteer delegation be organized to visit India, our Commonwealth neighbor, struggling with hunger riots while threatened by aggression, to determine what Canadian agriculture can do to help, and that the FUA take some degree of financial responsibility for same.

FURTHER that similar missions be encouraged to go to Latin America and Africa, and

FURTHER that we invite farm organizations in the rest of the provinces to take part in this program that presents a purpose great enough to unite farmers across Canada.



*It is my hope that this year now drawing to a close has brought satisfaction and happiness to all Alberta farm families. I rejoice with those who had bountiful harvests and to those less fortunate I hope next year will be better.*

*To the 50,000 farmer members of U.F.A. Co-op, I would like to report another year of excellent progress—a year in which farm people again demonstrated that by mobilizing their collective strength they could overcome many of their problems.*

*On behalf of all members, the Board of Directors, the the Delegates, the Agents and Staff, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*

GEORGE SAYLE,  
President.



UNITED FARMERS  
OF ALBERTA CO-OP

"Owned by farmers—controlled by farmers—  
and operated SOLELY for the benefit of farmers."

## Now Dwarf Cabbages To Entice Shoppers

Dwarf cabbage, a recent plant breeding innovation, has increased the popularity of cabbage with the food shopper, says Dr. Charles Walkof of CDA's Experimental Farm at Morden, Manitoba.

The smaller heads from dwarf plants are preferred to the conventional 8-10 pound heads, particularly by the small family. This preference has been enhanced since several high-quality small head varieties and hybrids became available to growers. Dwarf size heads average three pounds.

At Morden, a cabbage breeding program is underway in which a series of three dwarf strains with heads smaller than the 3-pound commercial type are being developed. When these become available for home and commercial growing, possibly by 1966, they will be useful in providing the limited amount of cabbage needed for salads and cole slaw in the average home. The miniature heads also suggest new methods of cook-

ing which could increase the palatability of cabbage.

Experiments showed they are all of good quality. The core or hard base of the heads to which the leaves are attached is small a preferred characteristic. Leaves are fine textured. Flavor is highly rated when the small heads are used raw in salads or when cooked.

Normally, cabbage intended for cooking is first cut or shredded. Dr. Walkof feels that the aroma of the vegetable, the delightful part of cooked cabbage, is dissipated in this way. One reason Brussel sprouts are popular is that the little heads are cooked and served whole and the delicate aromatic flavor is thereby retained until they are eaten. Dwarf cabbage heads can be treated in the same manner as sprouts and, in flavor tests, have been more pleasant for eating when cooked whole rather than cut.